**MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

06 November 2014

0930 hours

EHSF Conference Room

**ATTENDANCE**

**Physicians:** Michael Reihart, DO Regional Medical Director, Chair

Steven Schirk, MD Wellspan Health-York Hospital

Steven Meador, MD Hershey Medical Center

Christine Dang, MD Lancaster Regional Hospital

Donna Fehrenbach, DO Harrisburg Area Community College

James Leaming, MD Northwest EMS

Gregory Codori, DO Gettysburg Hospital

Thomas Westenberger, DO York Regional EMS

**EMS/Hospital:** Janet Bradley First Aid Safety Patrol

Scott Buchle Life Lion Emergency Medical Services

Steven Poffenberger West Shore EMS

Shannon Fouts White Rose Ambulance

John R. Logan Community Life Team

Suzette Kreider North West EMS

Bradley DeLancey Susquehanna Township EMS

Nathan Harig Cumberland Goodwill EMS

Bryan Wheeler Hanover Hospital-ALS

Herb Ingram Ephrata Hospital – WellSpan

Robert Patterson Lancaster EMS

Holly Pinamonti Memorial Hospital-Medic 102

Mark Moure SVEMS

John Brindle Life Team

Darryl Mitchell Manheim Township Ambulance

Ted Hake York Regional EMS

Newt Shirker Warwick EMS

John Logan Pinnacle Health

**Staff:** Megan Hollinger Director of System Operations

Ernest Powell Preparedness

Celia M. Fraticelli System Coordinator

**CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Reihart called the meeting to order at 0935 hours. He reported the recent death of EMT Larry Joe from Lancaster EMS Association. A moment of silence followed.

Dr. Reihart announced the EHSF staffing changes. Mr. Powell accepted the preparedness position within the EHSF. He will be transitioning into the regional and state preparedness planning position. Ms. Hollinger accepted the Director of System Operations position.

*ResQ Pod-Vendor Presentation*

Mr. Michael McLaury provided presentation on the ResQ Pod, which is their Impedance Threshold Device. Mr. McLaury left information for review.

**OLD BUSINESS**

*EPCR Project Update*

Ms. Hollinger reported activities from a recent conference call with participating agencies regarding the implementation process. They identified areas for improvement and will begin working with ESO for correction. Ms. Hollinger reminded agencies to return their subscription agreements as soon as possible. ESO cannot begin implementation until they are received.

Ms. Hollinger reviewed the yearly billing for computed aided dispatch (CAD) per agency based on call volume. More information forthcoming when possible solutions and answers are provided from ESO in regard to the CAD charges and other discussions in the conference call.

*CPR*

Dr. Reihart discussed a book by Sam Parnia titled *“Erasing Death.*” This book discusses resuscitation medicine and near death experiences. This book is available on eBay for $10.00.

*Community Paramedicine / Mobile Integrated Healthcare (CP/MIH)*

Ms. Hollinger reported the success of CP programs from various EMS agencies within the region. She announced future meetings are scheduled with insurance companies, Secretary of Aging, and other key partners.

*Infectious Disease Response (Ebola)*

Mr. Powell discussed the evolving nature of Ebola and the creation of four task forces for Ebola planning relevant to EMS response in the Commonwealth. He mentioned a subject matter expert (SME) meeting is scheduled for Monday, 10 November 2014. This meeting will provide the most appropriate education for EMS response to Ebola and future infection disease responses. New information will be forwarded as it is received by the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH).

Mr. Powell reported discussion regarding EMS agencies feeling it is in their providers’ best interest to avoid invasive procedures, such as an IV or CPR, for suspected Ebola patients. He reinforced the need to follow protocols for treating patients. Discussion occurred regarding the treatment for an Ebola patient will be driven dependent on what symptoms are presented.

There will not be a policy to cover every situation.

Mr. Powell encouraged EMS agencies to follow the protocols for proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

*Hospital Status/Divert*

Mr. Powell stated the hospital status/divert work group meeting was cancelled because of conflicting meetings scheduled for Ebola planning. The rescheduled meeting will be announced in the future.

*Transfer of Care*

Ms. Hollinger reported the Bureau of EMS (BEMS) verbally discussed at the Regional Directors’ meeting any transfer of care form may be used, as long as, the elements listed in the PA Bulletin are present. EHSF has not received this information in writing as of this date.

**NEW BUSINESS**

*EMS Salaries*

Dr. Reihart discussed the *2015 JEMS Salary & Workplace Survey* which noted the salaries for pre-hospital providers. It was discussed EMS providers are not sufficiently paid for their services and a discussion followed as to the reasons. The practice of insurance companies paying the patient directly was noted as a huge problem, as the agency does not receive the check in many instances.

*Safe Sleep Initiative*

Ms. Hollinger gave a brief overview of the Safe Sleep Initiative in partnership with Cribs for Kids. The Pennsylvania Kiwanis Foundation awarded the EHSF with a grant to provide safe sleep education, and sleep environments to Amish families within the region. Dr. Reihart provided a background on the Cribs for Kids program headquartered in Pittsburgh.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION**

*EMS Resource Utilization*

The role and scope of practice for the AEMT was discussed, and it was noted the new protocols should be published in 2015. There are AEMT courses currently being held and the concern is with the students performing procedures during their clinical time without a defined scope of practice. Mr. Powell discussed the student can be taught and practice anything under the AEMT educational curriculum with a preceptor. Information should be forthcoming after State MAC meeting scheduled for Monday, 11 November 2014.

*Narcan*

Ms. Fraticelli gave a summary of the PESHC conference call on Narcan held on 05 November 2014. Fire and law enforcement agencies were notified to contact a licensed EMS agency for assistance in obtaining Narcan. PEHSC has not established education or guidelines for the use of Narcan within the fire, law enforcement, and public area. Many of the meeting attendees voiced their concern over prescribing Narcan to an agency, where they were not familiar with the providers and their educational background on administering Narcan. Dr. Reihart stated physicians in favor to prescribe Narcan to law enforcement and fire services should consider additional education including airway management, and the need to carry additional equipment, such as an AED. More information will be forthcoming after the State MAC meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Reihart adjourned the meeting at 1200 hours.

The next Medical Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for 05 February 2015 at 0930 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Celia M. Fraticelli

System Coordinator